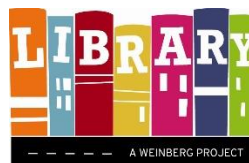




The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Weinberg Foundation Launches Annual Community-Wide Book Drive in Support of Baltimore Library Project**

### **Donations to fill next renovated school library with new books**

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BALTIMORE (March 1, 2018) – The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, one of the largest private foundations in the United States, today launches its 7<sup>th</sup> annual community-wide Book Drive in support of the Baltimore Elementary and Middle School Library Project.

The Weinberg Foundation has committed \$10 million, of the total \$30 million investment by all project partners, to build or transform up to 24 Baltimore City Public Schools libraries in an effort to strengthen academic achievement among students. To date, the Foundation and its more than 30 partners have completed 14 of these new spaces serving more than 6,000 students and their families.

In 2017, a record amount of more than \$22,000 was collected through online and cash donations. With that, the Foundation was able to purchase nearly 3,000 brand new, hardcover children's books for last year's renovated school library at Francis Scott Key Elementary/Middle. Those 3,000 books are in addition to the Foundation's contribution of up to 4,000 books, as part of its commitment to each renovated school library.

Because online donations have proven to be the most effective, book collection bins will no longer be available at Baltimore-area businesses. This year, throughout the month of March, contributions to the Book Drive can be made by visiting [www.baltimorelibraryproject.org](http://www.baltimorelibraryproject.org) and clicking Donate or by texting bookdrive18 to 41444. All purchases can be made securely with a credit/debit card, and 100 percent of each donation goes directly to the Book Drive.

Just \$8 will buy a brand new, hardcover children's book for this year's Library Project school—James McHenry Elementary/Middle. The library grand opening at James McHenry is tentatively scheduled for the fall of 2018.

To stay up-to-date on all Library Project Book Drive developments, visit [www.baltimorelibraryproject.org](http://www.baltimorelibraryproject.org), and follow #libraryproject on Facebook and Twitter.

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#### **About The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation**

*The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, one of the largest private charitable foundations in the United States, provides approximately \$100 million in annual grants to nonprofits that provide direct services to low-income and vulnerable individuals and families, primarily in the United States and Israel. Grants are focused on meeting basic needs and enhancing an individual's ability to meet those needs with emphasis on older adults, the Jewish community, and the Foundation's priority communities of Maryland, Northeastern Pennsylvania, Hawaii, Chicago, New York City, San Francisco, rural communities in the United States, and the State of Israel. The trustees, some of whom also serve as executive officers of the Foundation, are Chair Robert T. Kelly, Jr., Donn Weinberg, Alvin Awaya, Fay Hartog-Levin, and Paula B. Pretlow. Rachel Garbow Monroe serves as the Weinberg Foundation's President and Chief Executive Officer. For more information, please visit [www.hjweinbergfoundation.org](http://www.hjweinbergfoundation.org).*